

PUBLIC NOTICE
For
Air Quality Operating Permit
for Chino Mine of Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Co

Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Co at PO Box 10; Bayard, NM 88023 has submitted an air quality operating permit application to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for an air quality operating permit for its Chino Mine. The owner of this plant is Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Co. The exact location of the facility is at latitude 32 deg, 41 min, 55.6 sec and longitude -108 deg, 7 min, 29.9 sec. To aid in locating this facility, the approximate location is adjacent to the town of Hurley in Grant County, New Mexico. This application file has been assigned an Operating Permit Number P066-R2 and TEMPO Agency Interest ID No. 526.

Previously, the plant received an air quality construction permit and is operating. The main purpose of the plant is to mine copper ore.

This operating permit application is for a permit renewal. Per 20.2.70.401.C.(4) NMAC, this permitting action will incorporate the changes authorized by NSR Permit 0298-M8, consisting of increasing the amount of blasting agents used at the Chino Mine; increasing the material handling and hauling capacity of the Chino Mine; increasing the throughput and operating hours of the Chino Screening Plant; and revising the emission factors for calculating emissions from the Primary Crusher Dump Pocket and the Stacker Conveyor Dump Point.

The emissions, as established in NSR Permit 0298-M8, and brought forward into this permit are as follows. Parentheses note changes in emissions from previous operating permit action – P066R1; emissions are expressed in tons per year (tpy). Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) at 345.2 tons per year (tpy)(209 from Non-Fugitive Sources (NFS) (increase of 11.6)); Carbon Monoxide (CO) at 1301.7 tpy (101.3 from NFS) (increase of 698.3); Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) at 18.9 tpy (16.7 from NFS) (No Change); Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) at 55.7 tpy (3.7 from NFS) (increase of 37.7); Total Suspended Particulate Matter (TSP) at 8208 tpy (34.4 from NFS) (increase of 4293), Particulate Matter 10 microns or less (PM10) at 2082 tpy (31.7 from NFS) (increase of 1050), and Particulate Matter 2.5 microns or less (PM2.5) at 234.8 tpy (24.4 from NFS) (increase of 105.7). The facility is a major, > 100,000 tpy CO₂e, source of green house gas emissions.

The NMED has conducted a preliminary review of the information submitted with the permit application. This review included evaluation of the emission rates and applicable requirements to determine compliance status.

The NMED has made a preliminary determination that this plant will comply with the requirements of Title 20, New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC), Chapter 2, Parts 3, 7, 22, 61, 72, and 73; 40 CFR 50; 40 CFR 60 Subparts Dc, GG, and LL; and the New Mexico Air Quality Control Act. Therefore, the preliminary intent of NMED is to issue the air quality operating permit on or before September 4, 2013.

Interested persons may obtain the draft operating permit, submit written comments, or request a public hearing on Operating Permit Number P066-R2. Contact the New Mexico Environment Department, Air Quality Bureau, Operating Permit Unit, 1301 Siler Rd, Bldg B, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507-3113.

Written requests for public hearing must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. Comments must be based on the requirements of the applicable state and federal air quality regulations and the Clean Air Act. Comments or hearing requests must be received within 30 days after the public notice is published.

The permit application, draft permit and relevant supporting materials are currently available for review at the Air Quality Bureau, Operating Permits Unit, 1301 Siler, Bldg B, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507-3113. The Department contact in Santa Fe is Joseph Kimbrell at 505-476-4347.